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The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

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Shown here are the winners of The Long Island Fisherman's Sportfishing World Series. They are: (L-R) Dom Siano of Yonkers, \$500; Helen Jacobson, Noyac Marina, \$250, and Ken Vey, Albertson, \$100.

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CHUM LINES

BALSA VS. BALSA-LITE

After reading an article published in The Long Island Fisherman, Issue #43, October 25, I felt it was necessary for me to write to you and clarify a point that may lead to some confusion for some of your readers.

In the article entitled, "Bang 'Em with Balsa," it lists in the article several names of lures which the fisherman can use. Among these were several Cotton Cordell lures, including our Pencil Popper. While it was not flatly stated in the article that these lures were made of Balsa wood, it was implied through the title. Cotton Cordell does not currently produce any lures made from Balsa wood—saltwater or freshwater.

We are manufacturing several lures from a material called Balsa-Lite which is an injected closed cell foam. This material is lighter than Balsa wood, but it does not crush, break, or absorb water. I'm sure that any of your readers who fish with Balsa wood for any type of fish with teeth, will quickly find that after a Balsa wood lure is punctured it soaks up water and becomes water logged; also Balsa wood is very fragile when fishing for large saltwater fish such as blues or striped bass.

One of the major reasons we have not made a lure of Balsa wood for saltwater is simply because it is not practical. Balsa Lite lures can be hit with a hammer and not show any ill effects. I hope this letter has clarified a few points and I want to thank you for your time. *Bob Dennis, Cordell Tackle Inc.*

WHAT'S A JEWELER'S FILE?

Several times during the course of this year whenever the subject of hook sharpening is discussed, someone always mentions a "jeweler's file." The first cardinal rule I've learned since I have been fishing (which hasn't been too long) was to always keep my hooks very sharp at all times. I, myself, have been doing this, but only with the aid of a smooth hardware store bought file. I use this file (6" long) to sharpen everything from a #6 Sproat to my 8/0 bass and bluefish hooks. I would like to know what is so special about a jeweler's file? I've never seen one myself, but to my imagination, I picture a very small thin file only about two inches long by one-quarter inch wide, used to repair watches and delicate 14K gold or silver neck chains, etc. What is this file made of? *Miss Barbara Herrera, Brooklyn, New York.*

It is not necessary to use a jeweler's file to get a sharp point on a hook. A

fine grain file or a sharpening stone works very well. However, a jeweler's file is very fine and it is easier to put a precise point on the hook. Although some smaller hardware stores may not carry such a file, the larger ones do and many will order the item for you at your request. W. A. Muller.

MARINE ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL OF L.I. ON ROMER

We applaud your newest method to make more of the public (fishermen and all) aware of environmental conditions that are impacting our natural resources (Save Romer Shoals Mailer Card in your last issue). I think that you have come up with a very good method to get public support on critical issues and hope that you will continue this particular approach to solving some of the many issues that must be addressed. Your thousands of readers must now "carry the ball" and score! We will be alerting some of our regional contacts to this issue in an effort to get support on this cause. Let's hope the pressure makes a change in their plans to dredge. Sincerely, *George Wilde, M.E.C.L.I.*

A KNOTTY QUESTION

I am fishing for some information and would appreciate any assistance you might give me. I have in my possession two books that contain a very helpful amount of instruction on tying fishing knots. There are some "grey" areas, though. These grey areas are: (a) Which knots "should" and "should not" be used for Dacron and/or mono? Next question: (b) Which knot "should" be used in place of the Bimini Twist for Dacron and mono? Would the Gudebrod and Stren manufacturers be of any help in this matter? Do these companies supply any comprehensive books on knot tying, including any new knots that have been developed? By the way, the books I said I have are "Fishing" by Joseph D. Bates, Jr. and "Practical Fishing Knots" by Lefty Kreh and Mark Sosin. These books are very informative and should be required reading for anyone starting out in this great sport! Please bear with me, the end is near! Moving right along: (c) Would the Penn 930 Levelmatic be a good choice for casting bucktails to striped bass a la John DeMaio? What would be the heaviest bass you can handle on this rig and about how long should it take to subdue the creature? Would there be any noticeable difference in fighting time as compared to the rig Captain DeMaio uses? Considering that the Penn is loaded with 12 lb. test and the Ambassador 6000C is loaded with 15 lb. test and taking into consideration line capacities and overall construction, I feel there would be no drastic difference between the two. Am I right or wrong?

Can you get John DeMaio to write

more articles for you? He is *Top Shelf* and really knows his sport. I am sure I do not stand alone on this matter. Get him to write a book!! It should sell a million! Thank you for your time and any reply you may make. I remain, Your avid (rabid) subscriber and staunch fan: Steve Balas, Ridgewood, Queens.

If you reread Chapter 3 and see pages 38 to 43 in "Practical Fishing Knots," you'll find most of the answers you seek. The Bimini Twist can be tied in either monofilament or braided line with 100% knot strength. Stren Line publishes a free booklet "Fishing Knots," that shows how to tie a Spider Hitch, which also gives you a double line for mono under 30 lb. test. The Stren Uni-Knot can also be used to double-line. You can get a copy of this booklet by sending a large SASE to: DuPont Company PP&R Dept., Stren Fishing Line, Wilmington, DE 19898.

The Penn 930 Levelmatic will do the job, but naturally the lighter pound test and smaller spool capacity will mean it would take longer to land a fish. How big a fish, how long to land, etc., are all subject to many variables: fishing conditions, quality of line, and angler expertise will determine these questions. But the right angler with the tackle mentioned should be able to land the biggest bass that ever swam—under the right conditions. John DeMaio will be writing several feature articles in 1980. Scott S.



Contests & Tournaments

ALL CLUB INVITATIONAL CODFISH TOURNAMENT

The final results of the Tournament held Sunday, November 18, 1979 (Saturday was a blowout) are as follows:

Team: 1st Place—Hudson Anglers, 280 lbs.; 2nd Place: Freeport Tuna Club, 141 lbs. and 3rd Place: Squaw Island F.C., 39 3/4 lbs.

Individual: 1st Place: Jim Altschul, 37 3/4 lbs.; 2nd Place: Ed Bing, 36 1/2 lbs., and 3rd Place: Al Reidurn, 36 1/4 lbs.

All participants will be notified when the award presentations will be held.

CLUB NEWS

HIGH HILL STRIPER CLUB

The High Hill Striper Club is pleased to announce, that at a recent general membership meeting, an amendment to the Club by-laws was adopted, prohibiting the sale of striped bass, weakfish and bluefish. This amendment goes along with the Club's strong effort in conservation and its release program.

Listed below is the Fish Committee report through October 31.

Largest striped bass, 32 lbs. 8 oz., Fred Schwab.

Largest bluefish, men, 19 lbs. 8 oz., Bill Muller.

Largest weakfish, men, 12 lbs. 8 oz., Joe Vetrano.

The women's division is all wrapped up by Susan Muller, with the following entries: striped bass—31 lbs. 8 oz.; bluefish—12 lbs. 9 oz.; weakfish—6 lbs. 1 oz.

In the Junior Division, we have the following entries: bluefish, 6 lbs. 8 oz.; weakfish, 10 lbs. 1 oz.; both by Bill Young Jr.

Leading the Club in release points (2 per lb.) is Fred Schwab with 1452 and next is Bill (Doc) Muller, with 1078.

The High Hill Striper Club is a competitive surf fishing club based here on Long Island, and at this time there are a few openings for serious surf fishermen. Anyone interested may contact Jim Kelly at 485-8416.

SQUAW ISLAND FISHING CLUB "1980 SANITATION RULES"

All parties interested are invited to attend the Squaw Island Fishing Club's January 14, 1980 meeting.

Chief P.O. Wing of the Moriches Boating Safety Detachment 03-4, will speak on the "Latest Sanitation Laws Effective 1980." After Mr. Wing's talk, he will entertain questions from the floor.

The time is 8:30 p.m. sharp at the Surfside 3 Lounge, foot of Wellwood Avenue, Lindenhurst.

Pass It On...

FREE FLY-TYING CLINIC

A special day devoted entirely to instruction in techniques of saltwater fly-tying for beginners and experienced hobbyists will be held Saturday, December 15, between the hours of 10AM and 4PM, at Merrick Tackle Center, 2655 Merrick Road,

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FRIENDS OF L. I. RECYCLE DRIVE

The monthly recycle drive of the Friends of Long Island will be held Saturday, December 15 from 10AM to 4PM at the Pathmark parking field on Merrick Road in Seaford. Look for the ecology flag. Materials collected are: newspapers and magazines (tied or untied), aluminum and car batteries.

MECLI INVITED BY CONGRESSMAN AMBRO TO TESTIFY

A Congressional hearing was held on October 13 in Huntington on the dredging plans of the Corps of Engineers to keep dumping contaminated dredging material into Long Island Sound. The hearing was arranged by Congressman Jerome Ambro and lasted all day with input from many sources—both citizen and governmental.

MECLI Board Chairman, George Wilde presented the views of the organization. He was invited by Ian W. Marceau, Staff Director of the Subcommittee on Natural Resources and Environment to be on the panel representing the baymen, fishermen and boating associations. He called for the stopping of all contaminated or polluted material (no matter the source) going into our marine waters until it is known what the cumulative results will be from such a practice.

This particular issue has been around a long time and the Corps

has not yet backed off on their position to keep dumping. If you wish to make the authorities aware of your concerns you can write the Corps of Engineers, 26 Federal Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10007, or to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 11, at the same address.

If you wish to have a sticker reading—"Stop Ocean Dumping—Now," send a stamped self-addressed envelope to MECLI, Box 55, Seaford, N.Y. 11783.

New Products

SEALINE OFFERS WIDE RANGE OF REEL CHOICES

Most experienced fishermen enjoy testing their tackle, learning how rod and reel perform in different situations.

However, some anglers choose tackle for a specific type of fishing only, not realizing its full potential. After losing a few trophy fish, a reel's capabilities and limitations become more important.

One method of selecting reels is to evaluate an entire series. Determine each reel's intended use and match it to your preferred fishing areas and techniques. In some cases you'll note that a reel is more versatile than previously expected.

For example, the 12 reels in Daiwa's Sealine Series offer several models ideal for big game trolling offshore. Anglers prefer Sealine's six element disc-drag system for

fighting tuna, dolphin, sharks and other ocean giants. But the lighter, smaller models are equally suitable for tackling big fish in other waters and when using other techniques.

Two levelwind models (27H, 47H) are designed for salmon trolling in fresh and salt water and saltwater bay fishing. And Sealine's smallest model (30h) uses 12-20 pound test line for both heavy freshwater and light saltwater fishing.

Surf fishermen who favor conventional tackle prefer the wide spool 50h model. Like all Sealine reels, it is lighter than other similar sized reels and features an anodized aluminum one-piece frame, hard anodized aluminum side plates and die-cast aluminum spools.

Pier and jetty casters find the high speed retrieve of the 50h and other smaller reels in the series are also excellent for bridge and catwalk fishing, to cope with the lunkers often mixed in with smaller fish.

Anglers still fishing southern rivers and reservoirs will find that the 50H handles the large and aggressive big channel and flat head catfish. The strong drag and shielded stainless steel ball bearings that keep out water and grit, make these reels suited for the rough sport of heavyweight catfishing.

Trolling, still fishing and casting for inshore and river Pacific coast salmon might require the Sealine 50H or 300H. In addition to all the performance features, a line index gives an approximate indication of the amount of line out, as well as a guide for respooling with fresh line.

The Sealine 300H and 350H are effective for deep jigging for grouper, sea bass and other giants that hug the bottom. Sealine's strong unitized frame and convertible power handle make it easy to pump up a big fish and haul it to the boat.

The 300H and 350H are even proving useful in fresh water. The click noise to signal a strike and the strong unitized frame makes reels perfect for down rigger use in the Great Lakes region where big Chinook and Coho salmon are plentiful.

Inshore trollers favor the machined oversized gearing that makes heavy trolling for bluefish and stripers easier. And two models with stainless steel spools (300HW, 400HW) designed for wire line use, help get a trolled lure down deep where big fish lie.

A recent addition to Sealine's larger reels is model 900H, a big game trolling reel with rod clamp lugs for added stability.

The mid-priced high performance Sealine Series might appear to be designed only for open ocean trolling. However, the same quality and design features that make them perfect for big gamefish, also make them popular for heavy freshwater and light tackle saltwater angling. They're standing up under diverse conditions—trolling, casting, jigging and still fishing.

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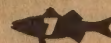
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NATIONAL SCENE

**NEWS & NOTES
ON THE WORLD
OF FISHING**

with Al Ristori

Japanese Longliners Working North

During October, fourteen Japanese longliners fished along our Atlantic Coast. Fishing activities ranged from sixty to one hundred fifty miles offshore in the area from South Carolina to Cape May, New Jersey. According to NMFS observers, tuna catch rates were up five percent from September. Tuna accounted for fifty-five percent of the total catch, with yellowfin comprising eighty-five percent of the tuna catch. Just less than two thousand billfish were taken, and over sixty-five percent of them came up dead. On the other hand, of more than four thousand sharks hooked, less than five percent came in dead. If their activities of the past couple of years are repeated, the longliners will continue moving north and fish the offshore waters up to Brown's Bank. A great many school bluefin tuna are taken at this time and last year there were many gear conflicts with commercial swordfishermen. Substantial numbers of swordfish are caught on the tuna longlines, and that valuable species has the worst live release record of any of the billfish.

From January 1 to October 31, Japanese longliners had accounted for over 323,000 tuna in the Atlantic and close to 100,000 in the Gulf of Mexico. In the course of this fishing, they'd hooked almost 50,000 billfish, 112,000 sharks, and 150,000 of other species in the Atlantic—and 15,000 billfish, 25,000 sharks, and about 20,000 of other species in the Gulf. The percent of these fish coming up dead in the Atlantic is about fifty-eight percent for billfish, eight percent for sharks, and seventy percent for other species. In the Gulf, billfish mortality is higher at seventy percent, as are sharks at ten percent; but other species (wahoo, dolphin, opah, etc.) run slightly lower at about sixty-five percent. Although all of these fish are released—dead or alive—even some of the live releases may not survive for very long. Nevertheless, significant numbers presumably do revive, and this represents a significant improvement in terms of the situation that prevailed prior to the 200-Mile Limit. Even if there is only a one-third survival rate, that means that we have saved about 20,000 billfish in the first ten months of the year. If you eliminate the inshore catch of sailfish in southeast Florida (which doesn't seem to be significantly impacted by the foreign longlining), that's probably about as many billfish as American sport fishermen catch in an entire year from U.S. waters. In addition, the requirement that these fish be released ensures that the longliners will not fish for them deliberately (billfish bring big money in Tokyo).

The percent of billfish caught varies greatly by area and time of year. Observer data in the Atlantic shows an unacceptably high twenty-four percent of billfish taken in July, 1978; but that percentage dropped to zero by December of last year. Mortality rates on the few billfish caught during the winter months were surprisingly low. For instance, of six swordfish observed on longlines last November, only one came up dead. This contrasts with sixty-nine percent dead in September.

Detailed Japanese longline records for the 1971-1975 period indicate that big-eyes and albacore are a lot more abundant off our coast than most fishermen imagine. However, the vast majority of the catch is taken very late in the year. Yellowfins heavily dominate the catch in August and September, but big-eyes almost catch up in October. The November catch shows about three times as many big-eyes as yellowfins, and by December, the ratio is more like twelve-to-one. The alba-

core catch increases steadily from the summer until it surpasses the yellowfin catch in November and almost equals the big-eye take in December. While surface trolling techniques may not take these fish very late in the year, it's conceivable that a fall fishery in the Canyons may develop in the future if chumming and deep trolling techniques are employed.

A State Fish for New Jersey

If there's any question as to how important the bluefish is to New Jersey saltwater fishermen, the State Legislature is about to put it to rest. The Senate State Government Committee has released a bill to make the bluefish the New Jersey State Fish. The bill (S-1022) should come up for a vote shortly. According to the statement attached to the bill, "The bluefish is an important fish in the salt waters of New Jersey providing both food and recreation for millions of state and visiting fishermen each year." Mid-Atlantic Council, please take note!

Will Dickey-Lincoln Ever Die?

Over the years, the Corps of Engineers have undertaken a number of environmentally unsound projects that were also extremely wasteful of the taxpayers' money. However, such projects usually have clear sailing in the Congress, as every Congressman wants public works projects in his district or state, and horse trading usually results in even the most obnoxious of projects being approved. One of the real "stinkers" over the years has been the proposed Dickey-Lincoln hydro-electric scheme in Maine. This one has been kicking around since the Roosevelt administration and looks worse all the time. The environmental cost involves such items as the flooding of 88,000 acres of mostly prime timberland, the loss of the finest remaining brook trout fishery in the Northeast, the loss of fifty-eight miles of white water canoeing, and the loss of 33,000 acres of winter deer yard. According to the Corps own environmental impact statement, it would be "the greatest man-made intrusion into what is the largest wild area remaining in New England."

For all of this, the New England area will get only peaking power, which can be provided in other less costly and environmentally safer fashions. Millions have already been spent over the years to study this project, and the waste continues. One of the basic problems involved in evaluating these projects is the

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artificial benefit/cost ratio system worked out by Congress, and used by the Corps. Even the worst boondoggles usually end up smelling like roses when this contrived yardstick is applied. For instance, Dickey-Lincoln has a ratio of 2.1:1—but that is based on the interest rate in use at the time the project was proposed! If the three-and-a-quarter percent interest rate being used was changed to a more realistic ten percent, the ratio would change to an unacceptable .91 to 1. To make matters worse, Congress has set other rules which tend to inflate benefits and deflate costs. For instance, the loss of timber production is estimated at between \$206 and \$311 million—but the law prohibits this from being considered a "cost" of the project.

The Corps estimates the total cost of Dickey-Lincoln and its transmission lines to be \$766 million. Even using this figure, but including a more realistic interest rate and correcting obvious abuses in benefits and costs, the National Wildlife Federation estimates that the benefits/cost ratio drops to .75 to 1. Furthermore, the actual cost estimates have not taken inflation properly into account. There is little question but that this would be a billion dollar boondoggle—and it wouldn't be operational before 1989 at the earliest!

Why has it gone this far? Until fairly recently there was substantial backing for Dickey-Lincoln in Maine. However, recent elections have brought in a Republican Senator (William Cohen) and two Representatives who are solidly against the project. Recent public opinion polls have also shown heavy majorities opposed. However, the powerful senior Senator, Edmund Muskie, wants this project badly, and the current Governor (elected because of popularity gained as Attorney General by opposing Indian claims to two-thirds of the State) has given it tentative support. Despite the obvious wastefulness of this project, public power advocates in Congress have supported it as a means of "sticking it to" the private utilities.

The House Appropriations Committee didn't include funds with which to continue the studies, but the fight continues in the Senate. Dickey-Lincoln survived the first funding battle there by a fifty-one to forty-six vote; but Senator Cohen is pushing for a de-authorization vote (already approved in the House Public Works Committee). If you'd like to do something for the environment and save some of your tax dollars at the same time, write to Senators Javits and Moynahan, urging them to make sure this "turkey" is finally buried for good!



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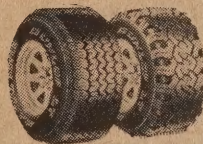
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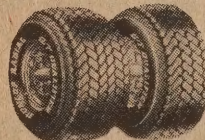
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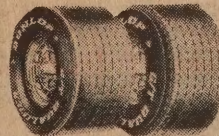
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OLD TIMERS' CORNER

"The way it was..." with Matt Ahern

FIRST COD

In last September's Old-Timer column, I told of my experiences as a youngster while trying to catch my first blackfish. Many readers wrote and said they enjoyed the story; and some even related rib-tickling incidents of their own. Some added the trials and tribulations they encountered trying to do the same. Which is all to the good, proving that fishermen are the same wherever and whenever we meet them.

Blacks, though, weren't the only fish of interest in many of those letters: a surprising amount of fellows also told me of their adventures while trying to catch their first cod. Many wanted to know how I did on my first try. And why, for Heaven's sake, don't I write about it.

I replied to these particular fellows, saying I had already done so a couple of years ago in the regular *Sinker Bouncing* column, but I guessed it was missed in the shuffle somewhere along the line. So, to bring us up-to-date, I'll repeat part of that column and then go on to something I want to bring out about codfishing in the long ago that seems lacking today.

How I caught my first cod is a long story, but I'll keep it short. If it appears to you that the following incident is coming from left field—you're right. I have purposely done so, for I hope to lend a bit of encouragement to those who may be in need.

Let me begin by saying that, as a dedicated codfisherman of over fifty years standing, I've met my share of highly-skilled cod hunters. Most of these chance meetings could be likened to ships that pass in the night; our personal paths seldom, if ever, crossing again. But even as a kid, I was impressed by these fellows. Brief contact left me one conviction: they were superb fishermen. I admit I unashamedly copied their fishing methods to the letter.

Many of those master fishermen who helped me in the long ago were party boat skippers, mates, and even commercial fishermen. But the majority were as you and I—just the ordinary, garden variety type of sinker bouncer, with but one exception. Each had learned through much effort and experimentation precisely what to do under the most adverse fishing conditions.

Naturally, I learned much from these great fishermen, and I shall always be indebted, especially so when first pursuing cod and my fish-oriented brain lay fallow. Some of these fellows gladly took me under their wing, unselfishly sharing hard-gained knowledge. Others, like

Artie Leidecker, with whom I still go cod hunting, were taciturn and grumpy.

But these attitudes—pleasant or otherwise—bothered me not one bit. I pumped those fishermen dry, either with innumerable questions (and boy, could I ask questions!), or by furtive watching whenever I thought I was unobserved. Sneaky? Sure—but sinful pride goes before the codfisherman's fall.

But most of the cod-catching methods I fell heir to came unbidden from compassionate fishermen. And in this respect, let me say that if you are a beginning codfisherman, you've got it made. Most master fishermen just can't keep from showing a "pilgrim" the error of his ways, providing, of course, that you as the recipient of that knowledge can take constructive criticism without resentment. This is the key. If you can do this, using these fellows' tried and proven methods will bring you cod. If you can't—well, I'm afraid there isn't much I can say.

I clearly remember my first encounter with one of these fellows. It occurred one winter day during the second trip of my then short fishing life. I was aboard the old World War I converted sub-chaser *Fidus*, out of Canarsie. This was in the late Twenties (phew!) and Steve Wischerth was its skipper. I had failed to get a cod on my initial trip the week before, and at the moment this trip looked as if I was due to repeat that sad performance.

Most of the passengers, including myself, were clustered in the stern trying damn hard to snag a cod, as the *Fidus* drifted around the old Ambrose Lightship. Everyone had one or two cod—everyone, that is, but me. And I wanted a cod so bad, I could taste it.

Sad to say, though, I had the impression many of those hell-for-leather fishermen resented having a kid underfoot. Not one offered those kind words of encouragement so necessary to assure a knee-pants kid that he was accepted as a fellow fisherman. Nor was my presence acknowledged, except for an occasional jaundiced glance. I was feeling pretty miserable.

And then I felt a heavy hand on my shoulder. "How are you doing, kid?" came a raspy voice from behind.

Startled, I whirled about and looked up at the giant, red-haired fisherman I'd noticed on my first trip the week before, and again on this very morning when I'd stepped aboard. You can bet I found it pretty difficult to hold back the tears of a kid's frustration as I blurted out my

tale of woe. I didn't know it then, of course, but my cod education was about to begin.

"Figured that," he said. "Just take it easy." He gave me a friendly thump on the back. "Look, kid, if you want to, pack up your stuff and come up to the bow where I'm fishing. We'll see about getting your a cod."

And that's how it started for me. Under this kind expert's guidance, I caught two cod: one about eleven pounds, and the other about twelve to thirteen. I was as tickled as any fourteen-year-old had a right to be.

That's how I caught my first cod and you may be sure I still think of Big Red. Truly, no man is as tall as when he stoops to help a kid.

But by no means was this incident a one-shot affair. Similar occurrences must have happened a score of times in my early fishing years as I stumbled blindly along the path to good fishing. And always in the midst of that stumbling would appear the hand of a compassionate master fisherman—ready, willing, and more than able to pick me up and point me in the right direction.

Even now as I sit before this typewriter, I can easily recall many of those good-hearted fishermen. Some of their exploits I've already written about, and some I've saved for future articles, but I'll list a few as they come to me.

There was the fellow who advised me never to jig for cod when bait fishing, and thoroughly explained why.

There was the fellow who told me the bow was the only place to fish for cod—and proved it by outfishing everyone on board.

There was the party boat skipper who told me it was foolish to use large baits for cod—and proved it one glorious day by single-handedly catching 105 cod on one inch pieces of conch! I kid you not.

There was the fisherman who showed me how to catch cod by using the anchor cable as a form of underwater sonar, long before the word was coined.

There was the fellow who proved to me that strong currents while codfishing called not only for heavy sinkers, but also leaders to four feet.

I could go on and on, but you know what I'm trying to say. Someday—if you haven't already—you will meet the counterparts of these great fishermen. When you do, be grateful and thank the fishing gods. These fellows are worth their weight in gold—and cod!

Now that I've finished tooting my own horn, let's get to the subject of what seems lacking in codfishing

today.

When I first began party boat fishing for cod, there was no radar, no sonar, nor any of those electronic marvels we take so much for granted today. All the old-time skipper had going for him were two sharp eyes, a ship's clock, and a compass. Added to that was a razor-sharp fish sense, finely honed by many years of intelligent observation.

Lest I lead you astray, let me say that not every skipper had this coveted "sixth sense." Most did, of course, or they would have quickly fallen by the wayside. It was easy for those fishermen of the day to tell who had it and who didn't. Those skippers who possessed it carried swinging loads of fishermen to the cod grounds; those who didn't got the leavings—if they were lucky, that is.

To avoid the possibility of not sailing with a heralded cod-catching skipper, it wasn't unusual for the old-timer to step aboard the party boat of his choice many hours before the scheduled leaving time. It was also common for many of these fellows to arrive at dockside the evening before, select their spot at the rail, and then stand around, suffering through the cold and gloom, hours on end before the skipper or his mate arrived and fired the potbellied stove in the below-decks cabin.

This, of course, was due to the fact that most fishermen in those days used public transportation to reach such popular fishing ports as Sheepshead Bay and Canarsie; which meant they hadn't the convenience of a warm car in which to while away those cruel hours. But in order to get those fish, we fellows willingly suffered.

I know some of this ruggedness still prevails, for I saw a rebirth only last winter. Fortunately for all concerned, the fishing was good that

day, which certainly warmed the spirits of several half-frozen cod-fishermen.

I began this with the express purpose of telling you about the sixth-sense many old-time skippers possessed and I sort of wandered off course. So, let's get back with an outstanding example.

Along about the early Thirties, I was helping out aboard the old Rose R II out of Canarsie. Dick Perrson was its skipper and a finer, more kindly man I've never known. As for this great skipper's fishing ability, it was beyond compare. I mean that literally. To this day, I have never met a fishing skipper who possessed the knowledge of Dick Perrson.

One cold winter day we were making our way to the Cholera Bank and just before we arrived, Dick called me into the pilot house. "I want to see the first cod that comes up," he told me. "And I want it alive."

I was just as puzzled then as you probably are now, but I did as he asked. The first cod I stuck a gaff into, I immediately brought to the pilot house. It wasn't a large fish—no more than eight pounds. Dick looked it over, felt along its lines, poked its stomach, and then began to pay particular attention to its coloration. "Tell the boys to get the hook up, Marty," he said finally, returning the fish to me. "We're going to make a move."

Shades of Rudyard Kipling's Disko Troop!

Well, as can be imagined, there was some grumbling and dissension among the passengers, for we had only settled and the cod were already taking hold in good shape. This type of fishing was quite common. Truly poor days were few indeed. But at the moment, those fellows knew only that the fishing was good where we were and we were leaving it on a gamble for a

place that might not produce at all.

We headed southeast and ploughed along for nearly an hour, with Dick continuously checking the compass and the ship's clock. Just about the time even I was becoming discouraged, Dick lowered the large lever at this side which controlled the throttle of the huge Fairbanks Morse diesel. We began to inch our way over the seas until we were precisely where he intended. Then he signaled for the release of the anchor and turned the large, two-handed brass wheel which put the diesel into reverse. In minutes, we were at anchor.

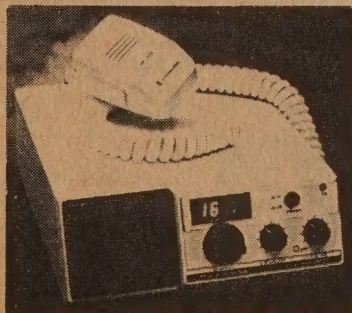
I'd like to tell you that I caught fish that day. But I didn't. And neither did the other three fellows who also worked on the boat. But those passengers—they caught cod until they were arm-weary. We poor fellows worked our tails off that day, gaffing fish after fish, none smaller than twenty pounds—if there actually was one that small. It was a banner day.

What Captain Dick saw in that lone Cholera Bank cod, I don't know. I never found out. To this day, I often wish I'd had the courage to ask, but even in the fishing game, there are some things you just don't—and this was one of them.

As I said, this is but one example of the knowledge old-time codfishing skippers had. And I don't mean to take anything away from our skippers of today. They still must have fish sense or all the electronic aids in the world will avail them naught. But gosh darn it, something is missing, for you must admit, the old days produced some outstanding fishing skippers.

If you care to comment, drop me a line: 39 King Street, Hampton Bays, New York 11946. We'll go over it together.

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FISH TALK

with Dr. William A. Muller

LOOSE ENDS

IT'S ALMOST OVER! Yes, still another year of publication is almost only a memory. For me, it has been a very enjoyable year, since many of you have been kind enough to take the time to write to me about your fishing; your ideas about fishing and fish, and your questions. I have valued all of your comments and I have tried diligently to run down answers to your questions. Nonetheless, sometimes it becomes almost impossible to get an answer, or, an answer doesn't exist. I would like to take this column to explain the status of several inquiries and problems that have come up over this past year and which remain unclarified.

TAKE THE INQUIRY FROM EUGENE CORCORAN. Eugene, I'll bet that you figured I threw your letter into the round file. Well, I didn't! Between August 30 and October 30, 1979 I pressed, inquired, developed a list of people and places to call; was put off, put up, and put down, and was given the runaround on Mr. Corcoran's question. Eventually, time and obligations forced me to give up the search. Eugene Corcoran's letter goes like this. "I'm up against the bulkhead on this one. It started July 28, 1979 Hawtree Creek in Jamaica Bay. The water turned black at low tide, white at high tide, and smelled like sewage on all tides. First the crabs died and then the neck clams, and finally, the killies came to the top dead and their bodies turned white. It took less than two days to kill what had been an improving environment. We had been gaining on it for about ten years. Blue claw crabs were the biggest ever; snappers and flounder were everywhere, and the water at high tide was so transparent, you could see down almost eight feet! It's over a month now and nobody swims in the water. You can forget about the crabs, and the smell at low tide is sickening. The experts all agreed they didn't know what it was, but it could get worse. Do they know something that we don't?" Obviously there was a sewerage spill or leak, and also obviously no one wanted to admit to you that it had occurred. If, just if mind you, someone had been irresponsible in carrying out their responsibility, which led to the spill, then that person or persons could be held responsible for the damage and the City of New York just might have had some tremendous lawsuits on their hands. By ignoring the event, they can all play the game of ignorance: no one gets blamed, and there are no lawsuits! Now, that may be a very farfetched analysis,

but the failure of appropriate officials to respond to questions can only lead us to believe that there was **foul** play...excuse the pun, I couldn't resist. But it's no joking matter. It is probably equally as likely that there is such gross incompetence at a variety of city bureaus and agencies, that the failure to respond to my inquiries was a reflection of that incompetence and not an effort to cover-up! First I called the City Department of Health. After shuffling me through a half dozen offices and making me wait on the phone for a total of several hours through the course of all discussions, someone finally had enough brains to know that I wasn't in touch with the right agency. I was told to call Sanitation. Unfortunately, the person who had enough brains to know that the Health Department was the wrong place, didn't have enough brains to realize that the Sanitation Department wasn't the right place.

OKAY! TIME AT THE SANI DEPARTMENT. By now, we are into our second day and I haven't made any progress. A phone call to the Sanitation Department tells me that I haven't called the right person. I get the new number. I call the right person, but the right person turns out to be the wrong person. I am given the name of an engineer. I call him; he is not in his office. Call back later; he is still not in. Call back the next day. Voila! He is out of town! Well, why didn't you tell me that yesterday. I leave a message. The engineer will call me next week when he gets back from vacation. "Is this the right office to get an answer to my problem?" I ask foolishly. "Oh yes," the dumb little voice on the other end replies. Next week comes and goes, and my call is not returned. I call the engineer. He is not in! He will be back in a few days. I leave another message. He does not call back. I call back. He is out of town! **Holy Mackerel!** This engineer has the greatest job ever. He is never in his office and he has a perfectly trained secretary who covers for him, always makes the right answer, and in general, sounds like a recording for MUSAK. I leave another message. The secretary is very sorry that Mr. Smith has not been able to get through to me. DID you catch that? She has subtly made it seem that the reason my calls were not returned is because I wasn't available!

GET LUCKY! Well, finally about the end of September, I get lucky. Mr. Smith is in. However, he tells me that I have come to the wrong

place and that I have to go to the Borough Engineer's office. Incidentally, that office has absolutely nothing to do with sanitation. It probably should, but it doesn't. Well, without giving you all the boring details—my adventure with the Borough Engineer was about equal to an instant replay of my experiences with sanitation.

ARE YOU HIDING SOMETHING?

It looks that way! I hope it is general incompetence and not a cover-up. If any of you have any more information on this, please write so that we can all share it.

PCBs: THE PROBLEM THAT WON'T GO AWAY.

Although we have been dumping PCBs for decades, our awareness of the dangers that these chemicals pose for people and the environment is about one decade old. Once PCBs were identified as toxic and dangerous, scientists began testing the physical environment and the organisms in that environment for PCB levels. What they found was that anadromous fishes contained much higher levels of PCBs than open ocean species. Among the highest reported levels, eels and white perch captured in the Hudson River led the way with concentrations as high as several hundred parts per million. It was found also that striped bass often contain high levels of the chemical, although most specimens tested contained tissue levels of one to perhaps twenty parts per million. Only one bass, taken from way up in the Hudson, contained several hundred parts per million concentration. Thus, it was quickly apparent that any test monitoring for PCBs would have to recognize the probability that fish in the Hudson or near the Hudson would probably contain higher levels of PCBs than fish from eastern Long Island. It was, and is, also believed that bass from the Chesapeake Bay complex contain relatively low levels of PCBs.

RECENT ROUND OF TESTING!

The New York Department of Environmental Conservation recently began testing striped bass and some other species for PCB levels. The DEC divided the marine district into four areas in recognition of the results of earlier tests that showed higher levels in fish closer to the Hudson River. The areas were: the lower New York Bay; Staten Island; Fire Island Inlet to Jones Beach Inlet; Long Island Sound, and Montauk waters. To date, fish from three areas were sampled: fifteen from Fire Island Inlet to Jones Beach, fifteen from the lower New York Bay, and four from Staten Island. Now, on first reading most of the

fish show rather low levels of PCBs and in fact, only two fish were reported with levels above six parts per million (6.34 and 6.91). Many of the fish sampled from Fire Island Inlet to Jones Beach contained levels below 1.00 ppm and only one of the fifteen was over 3 ppm. These data are consistent with what we believe to be the normal migration patterns of Chesapeake and Hudson River fish. Many of the fish in the lower New York Bay will be Hudson fish, while to the east, migrating Chesapeake fish should make up the bulk of the schools present there.

ASTONISHING NEW FINDING!

Until recently, scientists believed that the PCB chemical labelled Aroclor 1254 was the main culprit in the PCB contamination problem. However, some months ago, a scientist from the Department of Health thought he (or she) recognized the presence of another compound during testing procedures. The scientist suggested that other agencies should look for the presence of the compound in their samples, and thus, the NYDEC included a search for the new compound. Actually, the compound isn't believed to be new. It was probably there all along, but its presence was well masked in the testing procedure. The "new" PCB is Aroclor 1221, and it is not easily detectable. Because it is very tricky to pick up the presence of Aroclor 1221, DEC officials want us to be

cautious in presenting this information. There are still many questions unanswered and to help get those answers, NYDEC officials have asked other labs to work up the samples and confirm their work. It is believed that the substance is Aroclor 1221 produced by Monsanto, but even the I.D. of the compound is not absolutely certain. We also do not know, at this time, whether or not Aroclor 1221 is lethal or dangerous in any way; although based upon what we know about other chlorinated biphenyls, it probably is not the ideal food additive.

DO NOT WISH TO ANALYZE AT THIS TIME.

It is very important that further tests and investigations be completed before anyone begins to reach full-blown conclusions on the meaning of these data. However, it is important that our readers have the opportunity to learn of this new information and it is our job to report it as objectively as we can. Thus, it is important to point out several aspects of the data which could have great meaning when we learn more about this heretofore hidden chemical. The fish from Fire Island to Jones Beach contained almost none of the 1221 compound; all of the fish, except one, contained ZERO levels. One fish out of fifteen contained 22.53 ppm of 1221. On the other hand, fifteen out of nineteen fish tested from the lower bay and Staten Island contained the chemical. Of course, relatively few fish

were tested and it is, therefore, not advisable to reach sweeping conclusions; but on a preliminary basis, it would appear that 1221 is a Hudson River phenomena.

HIGHER NUMBERS—BUT WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Whereas most of the fish tested for Aroclor 1254 contained levels of less than one to three or four ppm, Aroclor 1221—when present at all—shows up at concentrations from four to forty-four ppm. That can be very significant, especially when one considers that most of the fish contained levels higher than 11 ppm. If the chemical is dangerous, the sum of concentrations for Aroclor 1254 and 1221 will be over the EPA recommended tolerance level of about 2 ppm. Of course, we must remember that only thirty-four fish have been tested to date. It is possible that further study will show that the chemical is not widely distributed among striped bass from the Hudson River. However, to show the possible impact that 1221 may have, let us take the case of one fish (about twenty inches) from Staten Island. It contained 2.99 ppm of 1254 and, thus, would be borderline safe to eat according to the EPA. However, if we add the 1221 concentration of 16.62, we now have a total of 19.61, which would be well above the recommended EPA safe level. We await more information anxiously!

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THE CAPTAIN'S TABLE TABLE LURES

with Helen Groll

Helen Groll passed away suddenly on October 20th. This article by Helen was submitted shortly before her untimely death.

Though your average angler is more likely to look on squid as nothing more than something to bait the line with, the smart cook knows that this relative of the octopus is mighty good eating when prepared properly. While this tasty member of the mollusk family is a favorite food throughout the Far East and Europe, American cooks have ignored it in the past—possibly because it has always been low in cost and widely available. With rising seafood prices what they are nowadays, perhaps this may be a thing of the past and squid may grace the seafood lover's table more frequently.

Squid are available fresh, frozen, canned, and dried; and fortunately they are one type of seafood that doesn't suffer a loss of quality when frozen. So, if you find frozen squid on sale—stock up! The frozen product is also sold pre-cleaned sometimes and this will save time in the kitchen. Cleaning squid, though, is really not such a chore once you get the knack of it and once cleaned and cut in bite-sized morsels, most folks would be hard put to tell exactly what the paper white morsels are. After the initial cleaning and cutting process, all the meat on squid is entirely edible and boneless, with a taste somewhere between crab and lobster. The texture, however, is entirely different. A word about texture is important here. Some people have described squid as being rubbery and unfortunately, this is often the case when it hasn't been cooked properly. Its meat is delicate in nature and will taste like rubber bands if it's subjected to prolonged or intense heat. So, quick cooking is a must.

A good trick for tenderizing squid pieces can be borrowed from Oriental cookery. Lightly score them on both sides before cooking. This will also cause them to curl up into attractive morsels when they hit the pan. You may also choose to soak the pieces for thirty minutes or so before cooking; adding a pinch of baking soda to the water will remove any "fishy" taste. Rinse and dry the squid well before cooking.

When buying squid, bear in mind that the smaller specimens are more tender, and sometimes you may even be able to buy tiny, finger sized squid. Though tedious to clean, these are a real treat. To clean squid, start off by rinsing them under running water as you

rub off any speckled membrane from the body and tentacles. Next pull out the transparent cartilage from the body cavity and pull the body away from the "hood," stripping off any material that separates easily from the body. Remove the ink sac and save it if you wish for use in sauces. Squeeze out the contents of the hood and rinse it well. Remove and discard the beak and eyes. You can now cut the mantle and the tentacles into bite-sized pieces, or you may wish to keep the mantle intact for stuffing.

Soak and score the pieces if you wish and you are now ready to cook, so here is a collection of our favorite squid recipes.

Cantonese Style Stir Fried Squid

This Chinese way of cooking squid makes for a very tender product with a tasty sauce. Serve it with hot, fluffy rice.

Clean 1½ lbs. of squid and set the tentacles aside for use in another dish. Cut the mantle in bite-sized pieces and score each piece lightly on both sides. Marinate the pieces for thirty minutes in a mixture of 1 tablespoon of dry sherry, 1 tablespoon water, 1 tablespoon cornstarch and three finely minced garlic cloves. Meanwhile, thaw 1 package of frozen snow peas and slice up enough mushrooms to make about 1 cupful. Preheat 2 cups of oil in your deep fryer and have ready a mixture of 1 tablespoon dry sherry, 1 teaspoon of soy sauce, and 1/4 teaspoon curry powder. The oil should be hot, but not smoking (about 280°). Toss in the squid pieces and turn them in the hot oil with a slotted spoon just until they turn white. This will only take about a half a minute or so. Drain the pieces and set them aside. Heat 3 tablespoons of the oil in a skillet and toss in the mushrooms and snow peas. Stir fry them briefly, until they are just barely tender. Add the sauce mixture and the squid pieces and continue to stir fry until the sauce bubbles. Serve over hot rice.

Grilled Squid

This is a favorite way to cook squid on the outdoor grill or over a small hibachi. You can season it to taste with your favorite herb such as basil or oregano, but don't overcook it!

Marinate the squid pieces in a mixture of olive oil, salt and pepper. Grill them over a medium flame for about 10 minutes per side, brushing now and then with oil.

Italian Stuffed Squid

When cleaning the squid, leave the mantles whole and chop the tenta-

SQUID: ITS NOT JUST FOR BAIT!

cles into small pieces. Make the stuffing by combining the tentacles with seasoned bread crumbs, chopped anchovy fillets and minced tomato. It should be moist, but not sloppy. Stuff the squid bodies, place them in an oiled baking dish and dot with butter. Bake in a preheated 400° oven for thirty-five minutes. You may serve this topped with your favorite tomato sauce.

French Chilled Squid

This unusual method of preparing squid makes a tasty appetizer or buffet dish.

Clean the squid and cut it into bite-sized morsels, including the tentacles. Bring a large quantity of salted water to a boil and add the pieces. Lower the heat and simmer the pieces gently until done (about 10 minutes). Drain them and allow them to cool. Make a dressing by combining the following ingredients in the proportion that suits you: fresh dill, parsley, sliced onion, oregano, pepper, salt, garlic, olive oil and lemon juice. Use about 3 parts oil to 1 part lemon juice. If you like it tart, add a dash of vinegar and 1 tablespoon of capers with some of the caper juice. Allow the squid to marinate in this dressing in the refrigerator overnight and then serve with mayonnaise on the side and some crusty rolls. Very good!

Kalamaria

This Greek recipe is simplicity in itself, but very good nonetheless. Serve it as an appetizer or a snack.

Clean baby squid or use medium sized ones and cut them into pieces. Fry the pieces in one inch of olive oil until they are golden. This will take about 10 minutes and be careful, since they will cause the oil to spatter. The best way to avoid this is to dry the pieces very well before you put them in the hot oil. When done, sprinkle them with salt and pepper and drizzle on some oil and lemon juice to taste. You may serve these either hot or cold.

Pickled Squid

Keep a jar of these in the fridge to add to the antipasto tray. They should be made at least a week before you intend to serve them. Use either baby squid or medium-sized squid, cleaned and cut into bite-sized pieces. Drop the squid into boiling vinegar and simmer for about 10 minutes. Pack the pieces into a sterilized jar and cover with olive oil. Add a crushed garlic clove, salt and pepper and a bit of dry oregano to the jar. Store in the refrigerator for at least one week before serving.

Squid with Spaghetti

Serve lots of pasta, pass the cheese, and serve a green salad on the side with this Neapolitan favorite.

Clean one pound of squid and cut in pieces. Brown 1 clove of minced garlic in a few tablespoons of olive oil, then add 1 cup of canned tomatoes, including liquid, and salt and pepper to taste. Stir in a small can of tomato paste and oregano to taste. Simmer the sauce for 15 minutes and then add the squid pieces (you may add the ink also, if you wish). Cook for about twenty minutes, adjust the seasoning and serve. An optional ingredient, but one that makes the sauce "special," would be the addition of some sliced ripe olives.

Oriental Squid Salad

This is a cold dish, suitable as an appetizer or part of buffet and you may adjust the seasonings to suit your taste.

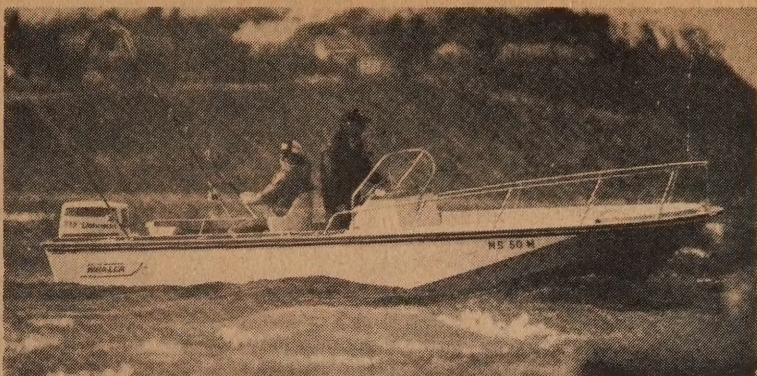
Clean, cut in bite-sized pieces and score 1½ lbs. of squid; then soak it in water to which 1 teaspoon of baking soda has been added. After the squid has been soaked for an hour or so, rinse it and simmer it in boiling water until it just turns opaque. Drain it and set it aside. Slice five ribs of rinsed celery and then dice fine. Mince 1 can of drained mushroom pieces and combine them with the squid and celery. Make a dressing by combining the following: 6 tablespoons soy sauce, 1 tablespoon vinegar, 2 tablespoons oil, 1 tablespoon sugar, a pinch of powdered ginger and 1 teaspoon of Chinese mustard. Pour the dressing over the other ingredients and chill for one hour before serving.

My Own Favorite: Stuffed Squid

This rather unusual recipe is a long-standing family favorite.

Clean some medium sized squid and leave the bodies whole. Chop the tentacles in small pieces and combine them with the following: fresh bread crumbs, finely chopped onion, whole thyme, and salt and pepper. Bind the stuffing with beaten egg. It should be moist but not sloppy. Stuff the squid with it, adding a small pat of butter in the center of each. Secure the ends with toothpicks and then brown the squid on all sides in hot oil. Pour in enough dry white wine to come halfway up the squid "packages," add a bit of lemon juice and cover the skillet. Simmer until tender, which will take about twenty minutes. When the squid are done, remove them from the pan, season the pan juices with salt, pepper and lemon juice and serve. You might have to add a bit more wine during the simmering period so that the pan does not become too dry.

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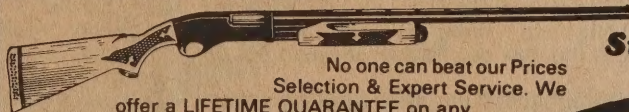
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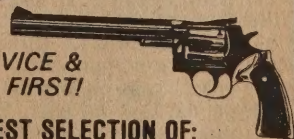
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I am sure that you have heard the saying, "There's one in every crowd." That's the guy who usually outshines all others, or, as is many times the case, suffers the doldrums of the unfortunate. Take the case of a famous Montauk resident, who also happens to be a very fanatical bass fisherman. As luck would have it one evening, we were into bass on the infamous False Bar. Now, our friend was having his troubles. His reel, so he said, was causing his line to twist, because it would not wind the monofilament on the spool correctly. Because of this, he would lose a plug every so often, as the line would knot and fail to pass through one of the guides on the rod. When the "little grinder" failed to retrieve a just-caught bass (a knot prevented the line from returning to the spool and tangled in the tiptop), our hero became infuriated. Tearing the defenseless reel from the rod, he threw it seaward. If an American League Baseball Scout had witnessed the incident, this guy would have been signed as a designated thrower. Anyway, it was guessed that this unfortunate angler must be trying to create an artificial fishing reef of his own. You see, that was the third piece of tackle he had sent to an early grave on the ocean floor.

One October evening, while fishing the quiet waters of a Massachusetts beach, a then-famous Long Island butcher and member of a fanatical fraternity of bass addicts, was having his own problems. While his sympathetic allies each had from three to five bass, this meat-cutter could do nothing. Now, usually when this happens, the more fortunate anglers say nothing, for it's a faith that is bestowed upon us all. That evening though, the others in the group were in an extra jovial mood. Thus, they decided to place a freshwater frog-type plug with spinners attached, into the mouth of a fresh caught bass. When the same procedure was repeated with a twenty pounder, our ranting and raving hero went wild. So convincing were his confederates, that he actually believed the frog to be catching bass. To calm him down, he was given a similar type lure. After his first two casts went unrewarded, he was told to pick up his retrieve, as a fast-moving frog will take more fish than a slow-moving one. Well, as unfortunate luck would have it, even the new secret weapon could not get our hero a fish.

Some years earlier under the Montauk Light, while the regulars were into fish, the evening tide produced yet another unfortunate. This guy simply could not do anything right. Darter after darter was sent out into the chilly autumn air, never again to return. The final count was six darters missing in action—all victims of the "Battle of the Boulders." Quite an expensive and frustrating evening. It was reasoned that the bass must have thought that a school of darters had inhabited the rip, for there were all sorts, swimming in all directions. When this was mentioned to the poor soul, this "mild mannered" bass fisherman took it in stride, like the true professional that he was. However, when the clowns at the other end of the rock pile started asking the unfortunate to cast in their direction as they could always use an extra plug or two, the now irrational and darter-less fisherman could take no more. Calling it an evening (besides many other unprintables), the fishless angler grumblingly retreated to the sanctuary of the downstairs parking lot. Oh yes! Upon arrival at the buggy, he noticed that the right front tire was flat.

Again at Montauk (a treacherous place), the regulars were casting to working bluefish at Scotts Hole late one afternoon. One unfortunate angler, while using a #4 Hopkins, somehow managed to hook, but could not land a United States Army Helicopter. It seems that the

big chopper was flying low—probably surveying the fishing action. As Uncle Sam's machine took off for Block Island, our hero set the hook. So fast did the spool revolve around the shaft of the reel, that the heat it generated caused both to fuse together. Of course, our now bewildered caster lost the big one. Later on that evening, while at Kronich's Tackle Store, the talk of the town was asked, "How he managed to hook the huge flying fish?" "It was easy," he sarcastically stated, "when I saw the letters U.S., I quickly began casting. How the hell should I know how it happened."

Sometimes superstitions play an important role in our unfortunate happenings. There is the case of a famous Long Island surfcaster who until this day refuses to fish on his birthday. It all started some years ago during the fall run of bass. On a clear October evening, which also happened to be this angler's birthday, big fish were being taken on the North Bar. Now this fellow had been warned by his spouse not to go fishing, as she had a party arranged for him. Well, telling this bass fanatic not to go fishing was like telling a hungry bluefish not to chase bunker. So there he was, in the lineup on the North Bar. "This just has to be my night! After all, what better birthday present could a man ask for than a forty!" Soon this gill-plated caster was into a fish. "The biggest fish of my career," he thought. As the unfortunate's luck would have it—he lost the fish.

Later on, while examining the night's turn of events, he noticed that the hooks on the new darter he had been using, were broken. The middle treble hooks were broken off the stem, just above the bend. The unpleasanties that were hurled at the plug manufacturer would have made a truck driver cringe: everything from possible legal action; to never using the plug again was mentioned.

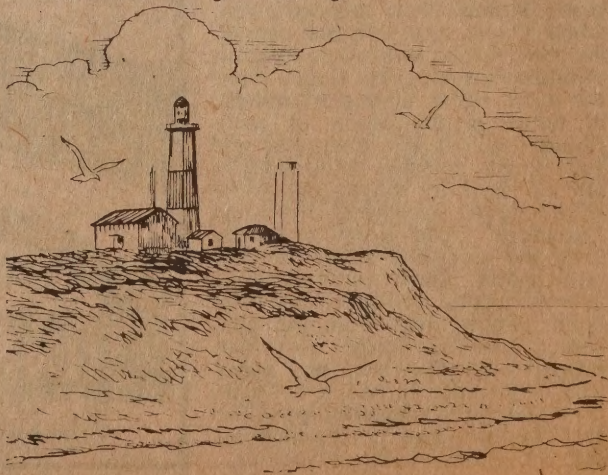
One year later—only this time at Shagwong—a similar fate awaited our unfortunate. The conditions were perfect. Just the evening before, we each took four bass apiece among the few rocks that stand near this shore line. Ah, the birthday boy was again casting. I looked over just in time to see a familiar bend in our hero's rod. "I've got a nice one, buddy!" he exclaimed. However, he spoke all too soon. Just as the words were leaving his mouth, the fish and the plug were also leaving, as the striped devil (not exactly what he called it) was parting his line on one of the rocks. Well, you can imagine what took place. "The second year in a row, on my birthday," he muttered. "Maybe someone is trying to tell me something. I should have stayed home and partied," the now incoherent unfortunate kept muttering. From that day until this, every October 21, this guy remains in the sanctuary of his living room, dreaming about October 22, so he can once again do what he loves best—go bass fishing. "There is no jinx on the day after," he says.

These are just a few of the many true experiences of the unfortunates. You may even know some of them.

Good luck and good fishing.



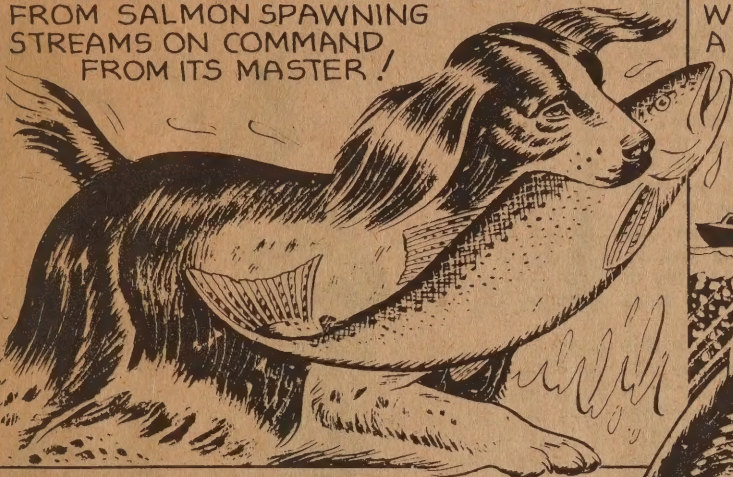
ADVENTURES OF THE UNFORTUNATE



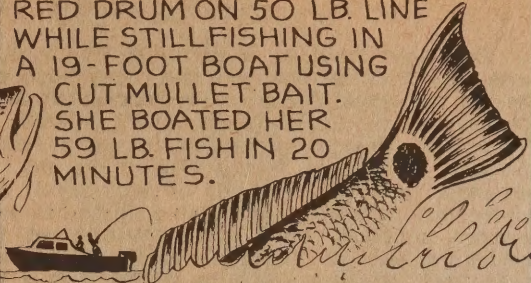
FISHY NEWSBITS

BY FRED
GUARDINEER

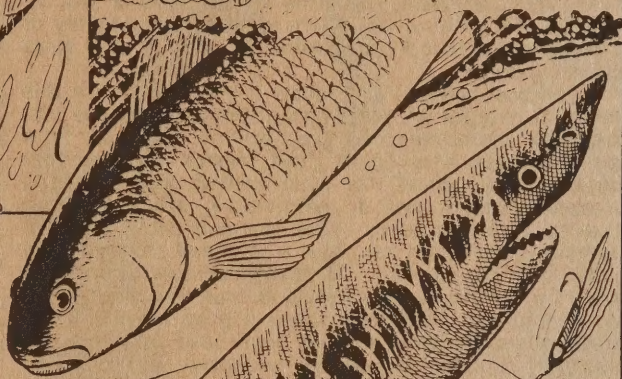
A SALMON STEALING SPRINGER SPANIEL
AND ITS OWNER WERE ARRESTED BY MICHIGAN CONSERVATION OFFICERS WHO CAUGHT THE BIRD HUNTER POOCH POACHING FISH FROM SALMON SPAWNING STREAMS ON COMMAND FROM ITS MASTER!



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CAROLYN RAPP OF MOORESTOWN SET A NEW WORLD RECORD FOR RED DRUM ON 50 LB. LINE WHILE STILL FISHING IN A 19-FOOT BOAT USING CUT MULLET BAIT. SHE BOATED HER 59 LB. FISH IN 20 MINUTES.



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VANDALISM AT THE N.Y. STATE FISH HATCHERY IN UPSTATE CALEDONIA RESULTED IN HUGE LOSSES OF TROUT AND SALMON FOR STOCKING. LOST TO FISHERMAN BY THE CUTTING OFF OF WATER FLOW ON AN EARLY AM RAID WERE 185,000 COHO SALMON, 146,000 BROWN TROUT AND 147,000 RAINBOWS. THE HATCHERY'S BROOD STOCK AND FERTILIZED EGGS SURVIVED.



BEST FISHING DAYS FOR DECEMBER WHEN THE MOON IS BETWEEN NEW AND FULL ARE DEC. 1-3 AND DEC. 18 - 31.

CONNECTICUT TOXIC SLUDGE DREDGED FROM STAMFORD, NORWALK & NEW HAVEN HARBORS IS BEING DUMPED IN L.I. SOUND IN 80 FT. OF WATER BY THE ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS. FEARS THAT THE SOUND WILL BECOME A "DEAD SEA" ARE BEING EXPRESSED BY COMMERCIAL, SPORTFISHING AND CIVIC GROUPS OPPOSING THE PROJECT.



Early Winter Action

by Herb Buck

December could be a very dull month for local fishermen. Flounder have not been very abundant for the last two years. Codfish have been scarce, although the few that fall for baited hooks are generally large. The only consistently good action has been produced by the party boats which pursue whiting and ling. If you are eager for a bag of fish to fill your freezer for the winter, this is the way to go. Both of these fish are mild flavored, but good tasting, and they freeze well if they are kept in good condition. The average December day makes this very easy, since the temperature is low. In addition to the above fish, there is also the possibility of running into a school of mackerel or herring, or a stray cod or blackfish.

The best procedure to follow if you want to try this fishing is to scout the party boat docks until you see that fishermen are bringing off good catches. Then set up a tentative date with some good friends for the first weekend day when the weatherman expects light breezes or calm, and a temperature which you can tolerate. By using heavy underwear and many layers of clothing under a rain suit, plus a couple of pairs of socks under short boots, you will be comfortable down to at least the freezing point, provided that the wind is not too strong. You must also include a good warm knit hat or hooded sweatshirt, so that your head and ears are insulated. Fishing gloves are available, but old knit woolen gloves with a few fingertips snipped off will do very well. Carry an extra pair of gloves to switch over to when your first pair gets wet. Your wet ones will probably dry out in the heated cabin of the boat if you spread them out near the heater.

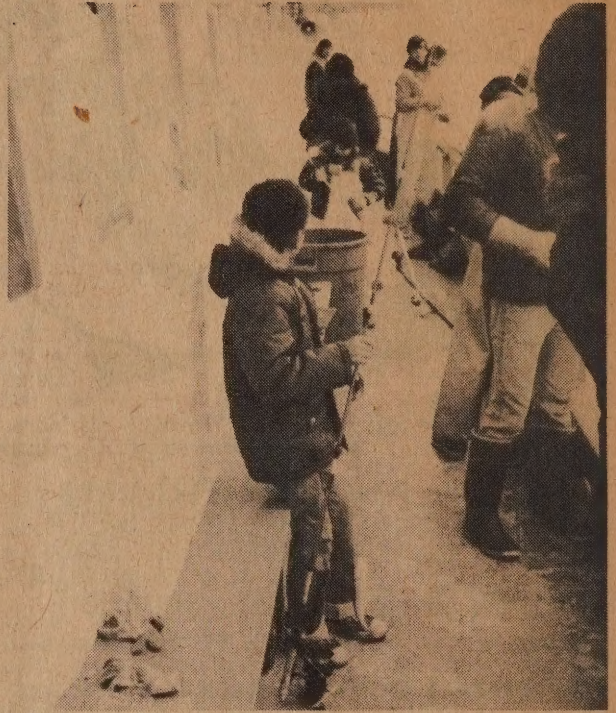
Most of the modern party boats have a nice warm cabin with comfortable seats and tables, in which you can take a break. You can wrap your cold fingers around a cup of hot coffee, and temper the chill when it finally penetrates. The heated rail, offered by a few boats, allows you to warm your hands one at a time, while you fish. You will find that the action is usually good enough to make you forget the weather until your bag begins to bulge with fish. Fast action can warm a fisherman better than anything else that I can think of.

One of the best and most popular areas in recent years has been the waters near the Ambrose Light Tower southeast of the entrance to New York Harbor. It is not unusual to find party boats from Sheepshead Bay, and other New York City, Long Island, and New Jersey ports fishing side-by-side with private boats and even commercial netters on these grounds. The bottom is fairly smooth and if conditions are good, the boats will drift, to cover more ground, until the best areas are located. Drifting usually produces more fish than anchoring, and probably makes the baits more attractive to the whiting, which are an active fish with sharp teeth to grasp the small fish they chase and eat.

Ling are a more slow moving fish, and will be close to the bottom. They will take the same fish baits as the whiting, but are also very much attracted by pieces of skimmer clam.

The most popular rigs consist of a length of mono with a sinker at one end, three hooks on short droppers, and a loop to attach your line to. Long shanked hooks of sizes from about 1/0 to 2/0 are usually used. The long shank makes it easier to unhook the toothy whiting, and does not discourage the other fish. Cut frozen herring, or other bait as supplied by the boat, will catch any of the fish available, but it is far from the best choice.

Many regulars will fillet their first small whiting and cut it into strips that are about one-half by four inches in size. These strips are a superior bait for



Two youngsters on the Blue Sea compare the size of their catch.



The first bucket is full and here is another mackerel. Ambrose Tower is in the background.

whiting, and likely for any other species that may be around. On our last trip, I tried this experiment. I baited two hooks of my rig with the cut herring provided by the boat, and one hook with a fresh whiting strip. The next three fish all took the whiting strip; that is too much to be coincidence. We usually stay with the fresh bait.

If you are fond of ling (and many fishermen feel that they are a superior food fish), you might bring along some skimmer clam if the boat does not supply it. This could also be a good idea if you are out for the pool, since a big ling will usually win—unless a stray cod is taken. Both of these fish are suckers for skimmer clam bait. It can be especially attractive when all the other hooks are baited with strips of frozen fish. Bait your bottom hook for ling, and the two upper hooks for whiting.

As I mentioned earlier, I find that a wet burlap sack is the best way to keep my fish in good condition. Plastic bags and pails both act like a greenhouse if the day is sunny. This heats up the fish and blocks the cooling breezes. If the day is below freezing, a dry bag is all right, but do not use plastic as a general rule. It is not unusual to catch large numbers of fish, and the sack will hold all that you could want to carry.

Now for the icing on the cake. December is usually a good month to contact schools of Boston mackerel that are on their way south. These are usually good sized fish and excellent table fare. For several years now, they have been rather scarce, and a boat might take only a few or none on any one day. December, 1978 produced some excellent mackerel fishing for large fish. The fishing on some days was as good as mackerel fishing could possibly be—although it did not last for long.

On one whiting trip, the mackerel school that we encountered was so dense, that it was impossible to get a baited rig to the bottom. Mackerel would grab the baits on the way down and you would be forced to fight two or three mackerel (four to six pounds of fish) to the boat. At one point, I dropped over a two-hook rig with a six ounce sinker, hoping for a fast drop through the school to reach bottom. It never got there; but when I pulled the fish to the boat, there were three fish on my line. Each hook had a fish, while a third one had inhaled the sinker. The sinker had dropped through its gill opening and the violent fight had wrapped it around the line. At times like this, switch to a single hook and very light sinker, or a light jig or spoon, and enjoy one of the best fighters that swims in the ocean. I was fortunate to enjoy a lot of bluefish on light tackle this year. In comparing them, my feeling is that mackerel of the same size are stronger than the blues.

Bring a medium weight spinning rod along for this sport, and choose a less crowded part of the rail to do your fishing. Use a one or two ounce jig and have a ball. If the mackerel are scarce, we keep the extra rod rigged with a jig and one or two tubes above it. As soon as someone picks up a mackerel, we switch rods to have some fun, and add a little variety to the catch.

On some days, herring will grab the little tubes and make things interesting. They are usually smaller than the mackerel and do not fight as hard. They are edible, but bony. There are many ways to make good food out of them, and they also make excellent fresh bait.

This type of fishing is not usually dull, and on most days you can use light tackle. A two ounce sinker is enough on many days, and this permits the use of a light rod with twelve pound test line. There are a few rough spots on the bottom, so it is a good idea to attach your sinker with lighter line than that which is on your reel. This works great; but on the last trip the fish were hitting so well that after I lost a sinker, I tied the replacement directly to the rig. On the next snag, I lost the whole rig. It's nice to know what to do—but it's better to do it all the time.

This year, keep your ears to the weather radio until the forecast is right, and then get out for a great day. You will have good memories, and fresh fish to carry you through the winter. You might even shorten the winter by making more trips because you enjoyed yourself so much.



A nice whiting for the bucket.



How do you move a barrel of fish from the boat to your car?

Deep Water Cod Jigging

Part One — Ultra Light Deep Jig Rod by Ken Gerhardt

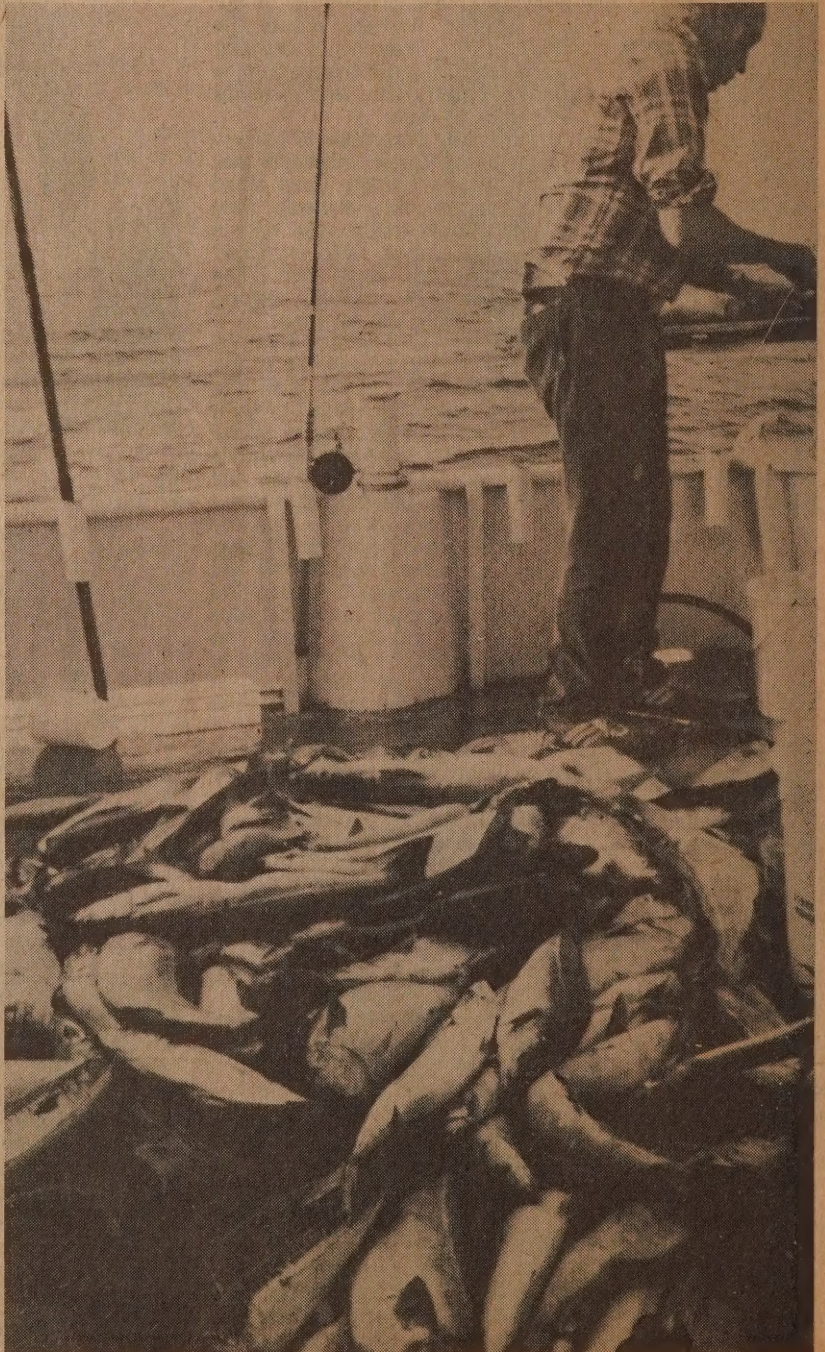
After one of the last distant water Safaris aboard the Yankee Capts. out of Gloucester, Mass., I was trying to rub life back into my aching arms thinking about the one hundred pollack, cod, cusk and mackerel that lay in a pile at Tim Coleman's and my feet. These were the result of a hectic five hours of fishing at Cash's Ledge.

From the time the Captain tooted lines down, till we were on our way home, we were into fish. Tim and I were fishing a Bridgeport Vike, twelve ounce jig with a 7/0 teaser eighteen inches above it. It was double after double, dragging fish up through one hundred fifty feet or more of water. We were both using similar tackle: stiff seven to eight foot jig rods, 4/0 high speed Penn Senator reels with 50# mono or Dacron. These outfits (pretty much the standard) weigh in at something over four pounds. They have the stiffness required to move heavy jigs in deep water and to be able to drive the hooks home in fish up to fifty pounds, with the odd hundred pound halibut as a bonus.

On the trip home, we were chatting about how great the fishing was, but how the heavy tackle necessary for the water depth took its toll in sore arms and shoulders. If only we could use light tackle; but anything lighter than our jig outfits wouldn't move the jigs, or set into a big fish.

Then suddenly, a light went on: why not use a graphite rod which has great stiffness and backbone with practically no weight. After a search through the Lamiglas catalog, a couple of possibilities emerged. The shafts had to be stiff enough to move the jig, set the hook, have enough backbone to manhandle a fifty pound cod through 150' of water and still weigh in at six or seven ounces. After some consultation with the local Lamiglas rep, Ken Ehlers, the shaft chosen was a Lamiglas Graphite Blank #GBT841H, which is close to being a seven foot 50# class rod, and weighs in at 7.5 ounces.

Next problem was the reel. Penn 4/0 Senators have been the standard for many years for this type of fishing. Unfortunately, the 4/0 weighs something close to three



Pile of 100 plus fish mentioned in first paragraph of the story.

pounds and is quite large. After some research and calls to other "hungries" a relatively new reel, Carl Newell's brain-child, the Newell 344 was chosen. This magnificent piece of machinery weighs approximately sixteen ounces and holds only fifty yards less 50# mono than the 4/0 Penn 113H.

Newell's reels are truly a study in simplicity. They are super light and incredibly strong. There are no extraneous springs or screws to lose or misplace. All parts are corrosion and rust-proof. The spools are marine grade, aluminum with precision ground stainless shafts. The braking system is as smooth as silk, a large area brake sleeve teams up with eight stainless steel and Teflon-filled brake discs for chatter-free braking on large fish. It is also guaranteed against defects in workmanship for a full two years.

After some discussion with Carl Newell, he suggested the Model 344 with a 4:1 retrieve ratio be used. A special long handle was also suggested for deep jigging; this made the reel a Newell Model 344T. Should the faster retrieve model be desired (5:1), it becomes a Model 344FJ. This super fast retrieve should be the ticket for "speed" squidding for blues or pollack in mid-water.

The rod was assembled using six Perfection aluminum oxide guides, the Newell 344T arrived and another Cash's Ledge trip on the Yankee Cpts. was arranged. The whole outfit including the 350 or so yards of 50# Ande weighed in at **thirty ounces!** But would it work?

The mates on the Yankee Cpts. looked at the outfit with strange sideways glances, as it truly looked like a freshwater trolling outfit. We finally arrived at Cash's Ledge, down went the lines and within thirty seconds two, six pound pollack were on their way up. The rod hardly flexed, the reel just cranked away, purring smoothly. Later, with two, ten pound pollack on, the drag lived up to its reputation, smooth as silk as two foul-hooked pollack tried to run to Spain. This was repeated time after time. This smooth running reel (ball bearing) also allowed further casts away from the boat using the underhanded cast of the party boat addicts.

Some seven-and-half bags of fish later, no arm cramps and a thoroughly fish tested "ultra-light" deep jigging outfit had been born. It had performed perfectly, moving twelve to fourteen ounce jigs at depths of 150' to 250', cranked three hundred-odd pounds of fish to the surface, and survived the fourteen hour round trip to Cash's Ledge and back in a steel rod holder with no damage.

Although this is not the cheapest outfit in the world, its cost is not prohibitive. For example, an outdoor store in N.J. will be handling and selling the Newell reel in November,

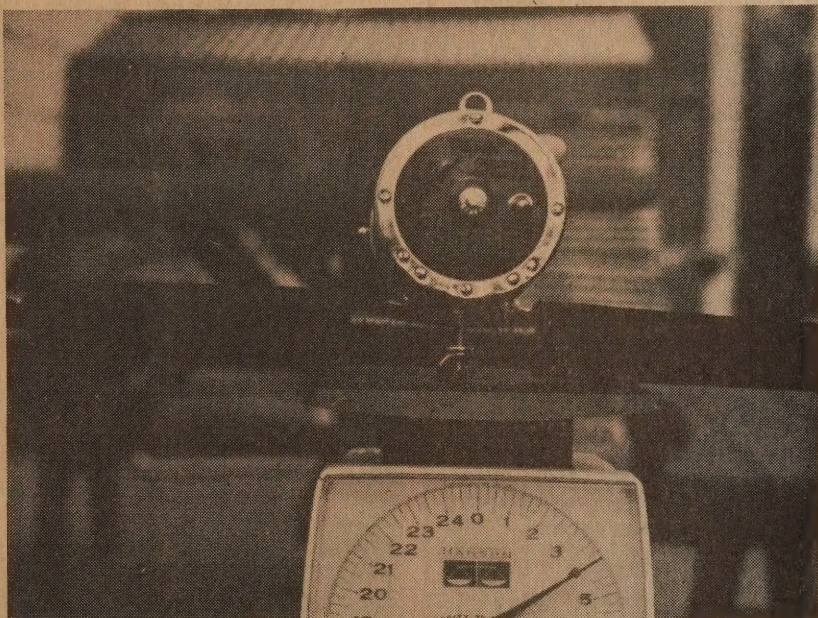
and expects to retail the 344T for under \$70. This is only a few dollars more than the Penn 113H.

The rod blank is a Lamiglas Graphite, one-piece model number GBT84-1H. Midland Tackle at 66 Route 17, Sloatsburg, New York 10974, stocks these blanks and has agreed to supply the entire kit to build the rod at the reduced price of \$100 for blank, guides, grip, etc. Mention this article for the discounted price. This is approximately 45% off list prices.

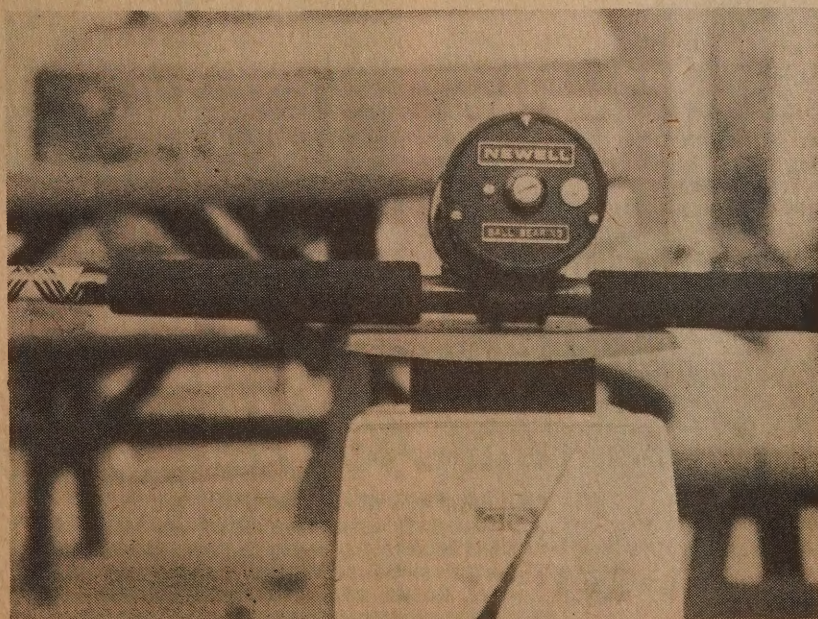
For information on the Newell Reel, contact Carl Newell direct at Newell Manufacturing, 940 Allen

Ave., Glendale, CA 91201. Carl has promised to send a full catalog of reels and conversion kits to anyone requesting it. For those of you who have 4/0 Senators or most any other Penn Reel, Newell has conversion kits which consist of a spool with anodized marine grade side plated and stainless steel shaft, solid spacer bars (2), and Newell's patented quick release reel stand. These will not do too much for reducing the weight of the 4/0, but will align it far more precisely and it will reduce the spool weight somewhat.

Next week, details of the rod; step by step construction.



Scale showing weight of a 4/0 Penn on usual jig rod. Note weights of 4 lbs.



Scale showing weight of Newell 344 on graphite rod. Note weight of under 2 lbs.



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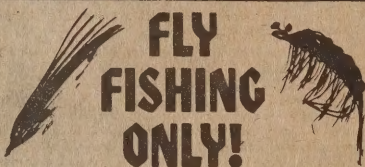
★ BEST BET ★

MIXED BAG

Captain Richie Rade on the **Marlin V** tells us Saturday and Sunday's trips combined totaled 70 cod and 75 blackfish, working the Block Island and Cartwright Grounds. The blacks ran 6-10 lbs. and the cod averaged 7-8 lbs. The pool usually went to cod in the 20 lb. class. Rich said there were still a lot of dogfish around this past week. This past week they were fighting a moon tide and the doggies. The water is cooling off



Kurt Frudenberger with a 6 pound sea bass taken off Montauk Point aboard his dad's boat the Swinger out of "Gone Fishing Marina."



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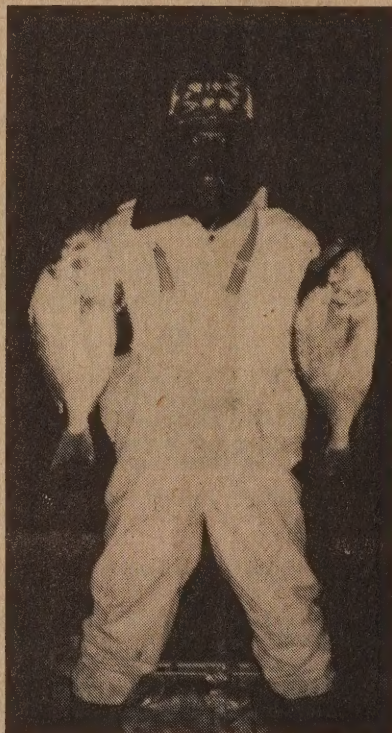
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Desmond Forsythe with two large porgies taken off of Block Island aboard the "Marlin IV" out of Montauk. Subscriber club photo.

now at a good rate and this could develop into a good codfish year.

Bunny Bruno at the **Viking** office, tells us catches of cod aboard the **Viking Star** working the Block Island banks are averaging 8-10 cod a man, fish in the 8-14 lb. range. Pool fish usually run over 20 lbs. and catches are made on clam. Occasional bruiser blackfish are mixed in.

Captain Wayne King of the charter boat **King Wayne** reports Saturday's charter for the Atlantic Anglers of Massapequa had a good catch of cod and blacks. Codfish were up to 28 lbs. at Southwest Ledge and south of Block Island. Sunday's charter for the Hicksville Telephone Company also boated a good number of cod and blacks. They also fished Southwest Ledge and the Block Island area using clams and green crabs.



SOUTH FORK

★ BEST BET ★

MIXED BAG

MORICHES BAY

B&B Tackle tells us that Jack Ferguson and two friends took 2 cod Saturday fishing in 85' of water due south of Moriches Inlet. One cod was in the low teens and the other hit 38 lbs., all on clam.



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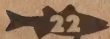
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"Pop" Smith drags a 42 lb. striped from the beach at Shinnecock. The big bass was taken on a Shorty Hopkins. Subscriber club photo.

GREAT SOUTH BAY ★ BEST BET ★ FLOUNDER

CAPTREE

The **Speedy VI** had 18 cod Saturday and about the same number on Sunday. These fish were caught on both wrecks and open bottom and are of mixed sizes, fish up to the mid-40s. Captain **Speedy Hubert** is bringing the new **Speedy VII** up from down south. This will be his Bay boat come spring. She's

supposed to be a beauty.

Captain Neil of the charter boat **Lady Ann** called to say that Saturday's cod charter had a pretty decent catch. Fifteen men ended up with 28 cod. The two largest ran 41 and 43 lbs. The balance of the catch ran from 20-30 lbs. each. Action was at three wrecks, all south of FI Inlet in 90' and 100' of water, all on bait.

Captain Dan Juttner of the **Captain Joseph Fleet** reports he's been getting cod every trip. Saturday 20 cod came over the rail and an equal amount were caught on the boat Sunday. Fish are mixed sizes up to 40 lbs. and are being caught on both wrecks and open bottom.

BABYLON

Eric at **Augie's Bait and Tackle** had a jumbo cod brought in late Sunday afternoon by Joe Monte. The

★ CAPTREE ★

SPEEDY VI

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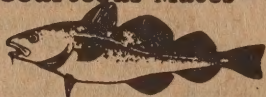


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Five and a half year old Salvatore Parlato with one of 9 porgies up to 2 pounds taken on blood worm bait on his grandfather's skiff. Subscriber club photo.

fish caught by pal Bill Miller hit 42 lbs. 5 oz. and was caught in 80' of water, 180° out of FI Inlet, aboard Joe's boat Gannet. Both Joe and Bill are members of the Squaw Island Fishing Club.

SOUTH SHORE BAYS

★ BEST BET ★
FLOUNDER

LINDENHURST

Charlie's Bait and Tackle reports flounder fishing remains good. If you want to brave the cold, they can be caught at Bergen Point, Amityville Cut, in the State Channel. Big cod but not in big numbers are being taken at the Fingers, 165° out of FI Inlet in 90' of water. John says there few cod but a lot of doggies. The doggies, however, make super eating. The store will be handling worms through this weekend.

SEAFORD

Wanser's Bait and Tackle says there's still good flounder fishing to be had, as evidenced by Keith Constantine of Seaford Harbor who had two bushel baskets filled with small keeper flounder. Lon says there are mucho throwbacks still around, so please throw back. Catches are being made off the town pier, at Four Corners and on the west side of the 2nd Wantagh, all on worms and red clam.

BELLMORE

The Singing Dog at Merrick Tackle tells us ling and whiting catches are now being made just a couple of miles out of Jones Inlet and seem to be moving in closer. Catches are medium. This report was given to the dog by open boat customers fishing out of Freeport. Keeper sized flounder, 6-12 per man are being taken by fishermen who own long underwear at Merrick Point and Rowboat Alley, mussels best on the hook, followed by clam.

MERRICK

Jimmy at Nick's Fishing Station tells us flounder fishing remains pretty much the same as it has been, with mostly small fish that should be returned to the water

gently, but enough good keepers to make your efforts worthwhile. Some big cod being caught at the Fingers on clam.

WEST END SOUTH SHORE ★ BEST BET ★ MIXED BAG

FREEPORT

Captain Sy Karlin of the **Blue Fin II** reports Saturday's trip for a group from United Air Lines worked an offshore wreck and totalled 12 cod up to 40 lbs. Six of these cod won LIF Skillful Angling Awards for their catchers. The pool fish was taken by Joe Zeillmann of Massapequa Park. This is all on clam. They also took a 4 lb. porgy and a 5 lb. sea bass and several good sized blackfish on this wreck. Sunday's charter for the Double T Fishing Club, working a different wreck, loaded up with 21 cod up to 33¼ lbs. High hook and pool winner with 5 fish was Steve Kierney of Massapequa Park. This trip resulted in five more LIF Skillful Angling Awards. There was also an assortment of ling and blacks caught on this wreck. The boat will be sailing as an open boat for cod December 15. See ad for details.

The **Starstream II** reports that although large numbers of fish are not in the cards right now, this past week produced good amounts of big fish. On Sunday, a 45 lb. cod was decked by Junior Bento of Franklin Square and Junior walked off with the pool. The runner up fish was 33 lbs. Richie says the boat is catching 12-18 cod a day in the 5-45 lb. range. A few ling, blacks, porgies and sea bass and mackerel are also being picked. This is a combination of wreck and open bottom fishing.

The **Captain Al** reports that on Saturday, Larry McKenna of Uniondale boated a 52 lb. giant cod. Edgar Torres of Brooklyn rang the gong with a 44 and 43 lb. cod. Merrick angler Bob Conley put away a 38 lber. There was a total of 30 cod for 24 people Saturday. Al says now that the crowds are light, is the time to come on down for a shot at a trophy fish.

Captain Tony on the **Miss Freeport II** called to say he found whiting Saturday just outside of Jones Inlet and that he will start regular whiting fishing on a 9AM daily basis, starting Saturday. See ad for details. Tony says the fish were mediums, plus some big baseball bats.

The **Captain Lou III** reports floundering fair on Monday, but was excellent on Tuesday with 6 men

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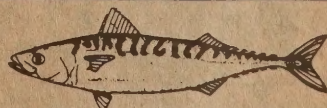
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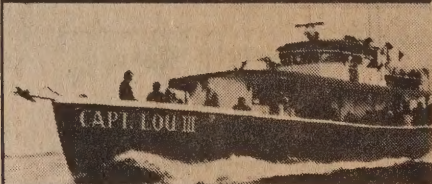
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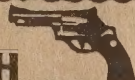
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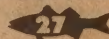
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rumor of a 51 lb. striper caught at the 3rd Wantagh Thursday or Friday night, but verification and details are lacking.

NEW ROCHELLE

★ WHITING ★

Klondike VII

SAILS 7AM SAT. & SUN.

The Klondike VII will no longer be sailing from its present location. We are now docked at the end of Fort Stocum Rd. off of Pelham Road, New Rochelle.

CAPT. PETE PEARSON (914) 738-4593

pulling roughly 300 keeper flounder. Things slowed toward the end of the week due to the winds, but things picked up again on Sunday. Mike says the fish are definitely bigger now and there's plenty of action. Mike says he'll be staying with the flounder until they're all over but that he will also be making some special offshore trips soon for cod and whiting. See ad for details.

The Captain Bill reports good flounder catches. Sunday's high hook was 18 keepers on the boat's half day trip and all other half day trips averaging 12-15 keepers a man. Saturday also saw good catches, all in local waters. Bill said he will soon be switching to ling and whiting half day trips as soon as the flounders go back into the mud.

Bob at Hook Line and Sinker Bait and Tackle tells us there's still a lot of flounder around to be caught. Saturday saw John Ramos pull 55 keeper flounder from Randall Bay on worms, working both tides in shallow water. There were also many throwbacks. Some big cod being caught on open bottom and at some of the offshore wrecks. Bob heard a



The Charles Guzzo party with a good catch of jumbo blues, bonito, and albacore taken S.E. of Jones Inlet on jigs and bait. The group fished aboard the charterboat, "Shalidon."

ROCKAWAYS

Skippie's Bait and Tackle says there's still good flounder catches to be had with mussels working best, then clam. Hottest catches that Skip is aware of are the old Oyster beds, oil city in the deep areas and Reynolds Channel near the Block area. On the codfish scene, Charlie Berwin of E. Rockaway and family fishing SE of Jones Inlet put away 7 cod on Saturday on open bottom on Charlie's boat, Four Winds. Artie Horning and party jigged 2 boxes of mackerel Saturday and 7 big cod fishing SE of the Inlet in 80' of water. They also had a load of dogs. Dragners seem to be catching substantial numbers of cod in 120' of water S.E. of Jones Inlet on open bottom. Small bass being umbraelled at the Tin Can.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Mike's Bait and Tackle reports the Tin Can Grounds are producing 6 lb. class stripers on trolled umbrella rigs. Big mackerel and a lot of them are being taken at the #2 buoy which is inshore of the Tin Can on the ebb. Ling and whiting fishing has been very good this past week at both Scotland and Ambrose. Twenty-one



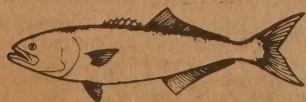
Shown here are the winners of The Long Island Fisherman's Sportfishing World series. They are: (L-R) Dom Siano of Yonkers, \$500; Helen Jacobsen, Noyac Marina, \$250, and Ken Vey, Albertson, \$100.

cod were taken by one boat that fished open bottom Saturday. Black-fishing remains a good item at 17 Fathoms and Seabright.

The **Atomic II** reported good night whiting fishing at Ambrose Tower. Most catches ranged from 1/4 to a full five gallon pail per man and the fishing is improving everyday. During the day, excellent catches of whiting are being taken at the Ambrose Tower. Catches average about 60 fish per man in the 1/2 to 3 lb. range. These fish are hitting herring, clam and fresh whiting bait. Fares are getting a shot at the mackerel everyday.

The **Pilot II** reported super black-fishing at 17 Fathoms. Nice sized fish in the 3-10 lb. range have been hitting green crabs and catches have run from 15 to 40 fish per person.

The **Dorothy B** is doing a super job on the whiting at Ambrose Tower. Fares have been taking 35-40 fish on clams and fresh whiting only 50 minutes from the dock.



NORTH SHORE MID-ISLAND

★ **BEST BET** ★
MIXED BAG

PORT JEFFERSON

At **Tackle Shack Sportsmens Center** reports flounder fishing has been fair in the Port Jeff to Mt. Sinai area from both pier and boat. Most fish are being caught on worms and clam chum, but corn seems to be attracting the fish also. On the South Shore in the Patchogue area, flounder are being caught at the town dock on bloods. Great action for the hearty. Saturday on the boat Extra Dry, Peter and Eric Schubert with Dad, Gene and friend Bill picked up 86 keeper flounder on red dyed clam and on corn kernels on the hook with clam chum. The fish were good sized.

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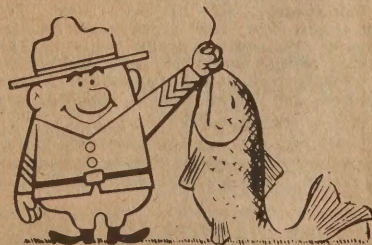
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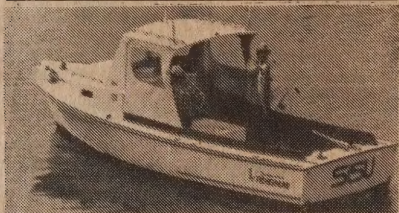
Bruce S. Bandes (516) 654-3113
116 East Main St., Patchogue, N.Y. 11772

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To place an ad in *The Long Island Fisherman's* classified ad section, send in copy for the ad exactly as you wish it to read, along with your check or money order for the full amount. (Sorry, no billing.) Rates for non-subscribers are 25-cents per word, 30 word (\$7.50) minimum. Subscribers of *The Fisherman* receive a discount if they include the number of their subscription label. Classified rates for subscribers are: 20 cents per word, 30 word (\$6.00) minimum. Discounts for extended runs: 12 times, 5%; 35 times, 10%; and 50 times, 15%. To run a photograph with an ad, add \$16.80 to the words.

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Boat, Motor or Trailer

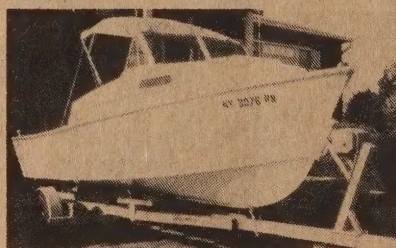
1977 70 h.p. electric Evinrude, new 1979, 50 hours: \$1500 FIRM. 1978 E-Z loader trailer with spare tire. Good for 19' boat: \$600 FIRM. 1964 Lapstrake, 19' Pembo outboard; new canvas, fishwell, Marine Survey available. Bottom fiberglassed. 516-549-3792.

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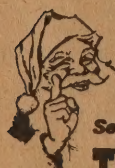
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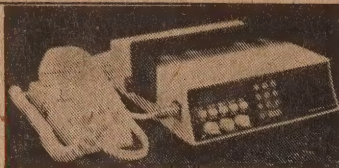
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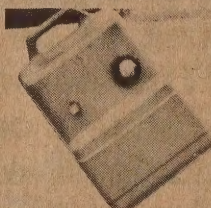


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